4/27/70

Dear Howard,

I've been in DC all day on other matters, just got home, read your letter of the 23rd, and will respond in more detail when I can.

I do not now have any doubt of your intentions, nor have I ever.

Your hurt is no surprise to me. I expected it and wrote Dick in the event you consulted with him so he could assuage it while, perhaps, adding to your understanding.

My now you know more of what Nichols is up to.

I have also suggested to Dick it is no favor to you to encourage you to spread yourself too thin.

One of the importances of CD 47 and Skolnick is that three of the pages are from this file but he removed the identification. However, they are in my text. It may also bt that he did not remove the identification, that I sent my friend those copies from the name file, though CD47 was the original file.

Howard, it was not my intent to hurt you. The way I treat you should be all you need know of how I regard you. Nor is it only that I must prevent hurt to what we seek, damage to my work, extra and also-intolerable burdens. How much more would your own hurt be if youcoused real damage?

I do not encourage abrupt termination of relations with Lifton and Nichols. I'll write about this when I can. You use Dick's phrase properly and it is apt. Frankly, I see nothing wrong with your giving Lifton the Pink-Specter tape even if you get nothing. It is simply that you cannot now cope with such people. I hope you never have to. I don't think you'll ever be able to because you are honest where they are not. And they are practised in deceit, to which they give more acceptable title.

I appreciate the time you took to respond and the detail. More when I've time.

Sincerely,